

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAA-02 SSM-05 TRSE-00 ACDA-12
IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 SSO-00 INRE-00 /095 W
-----017445 041625Z /40

O R 041246Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3950
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN
USMISSION SINAI

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 8340

NSC FOR BRZEZINSKI

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER F.), PEPR IS US
SUBJECT: ISRAELI PRESS REACTION JULY 4 TO VICE PRISEDENT MONDALE'S
VISIT

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1. PRESS DISCUSSION OF THE ISRAELI SEGMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT
MONDALE'S TRIP THIS WEEKEND, WHILE EXTENSIVE, IS OVERSHADOWED
TODAY (JULY 4) BY REPORTING ON THE VICE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO
EGYPT AND THE LONDON FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE. THE
LONDON CONFERENCE IS SEEN AS THE PRINCIPAL RESULT OF THE
ENTIRE JOURNEY.

2. HAARETZ (BENZIMAN) REPORTS THAT THE PREVAILING EVALUATION IN JERUSALEM LAST NIGHT WAS THAT THE VISIT HAD BEEN MEANT TO DEMONSTRATE WASHINGTON'S GOOD WILL TOWARDS ISRAEL. BENZIMAN NOTES, HOWEVER, THAT THE PROPOSED LONDON FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING WAS THE CHIEF POLITICAL TOPIC OF MONDALE'S VISIT HERE. BENZIMAN QUOTES OBSERVERS IN JERUSALEM AS BELIEVING THAT A DEEP CONTROVERSY BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE U.S. MIGHT DEVELOP SOON ON THE FORMAT OF A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT AND THAT CONSEQUENTLY CONSIDERABLE TENSION IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES COULD ARISE.

3. HOWEVER, THE JERUSALEM POST (LANDAU) CLAIMS THAT IN SUMMING UP THE MONDALE VISIT, GOVERNMENT CIRCLES WERE PLEASED WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT'S PUBLIC REITERATION OF AMERICA'S COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL'S SECURITY. THESE CIRCLES POINTED OUT THAT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND JERUSALEM OVER THE APPLICATION OF 242 TO THE WEST BANK WERE WELL KNOWN ANYWAY AND THAT THE RELATIONSHIP HAD THEREFORE NOT SUFFERED AS A RESULT OF THEIR RE-EMPHASIS BY MONDALE. LANDAU NOTES THAT IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE THE VICE PRESIDENT HAD LABELLED THEM "DIFFERENCES BETWEEN FRIENDS."

4. EDITORIAL COMMENT SIMILARLY FOCUSES ON THE POLITICAL POSITIONS OF ISRAEL, EGYPT AND THE U.S. IN THE WAKE OF THE MONDALE TRIP, RATHER THAN ON THE VISIT ITSELF. HAARETZ, FOR EXAMPLE, WRITES THAT "THE POLITICAL BACKGROUND OF MR. MONDALE'S UNCLASSIFIED

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VISIT SHOULD NOT BE OVERLOOKED: NAMELY THE TENSION EXISTING IN WASHINGTON-JERUSALEM RELATIONS."

5. DAVAR WRITES THAT "FROM THE ASPECT OF CHANCES FOR RESUMING THE ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN CONTACTS, MR. MONDALE CAN CONSIDER HIS VISIT AT LEAST A PARTIAL SUCCESS. THE SAME APPLIES TO THE RENEWAL OF THE FRIENDLY DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION AND U.S. JEWRY, WHICH WAS APPARENTLY AN ADDITIONAL AIM OF THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT...IF IT CONTAINED NOTHING INNOVATIVE, THAT DOES NOT DETRACT FROM THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SITUATION, BUT ONLY ADDS TO CLARIFYING IT, JUST AS THE U.S. POSITIONS ON A SOLUTION TO THE ISRAEL-ARAB CONFLICT, AS EXPRESSED BY THE VICE PRESIDENT, ONLY SERVED TO REINFORCE THE STANDS ALREADY KNOWN TO US."

6. AL HAMISHMAR NOTES THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT WAS TO CONVEY A CLEAR POLITICAL MESSAGE TO THE GOI, A MESSAGE WHICH URGES FLEXIBILITY ON ALL TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS IN RETURN FOR SECURITY GUARANTEES.

7. MAARIV BELIEVES "IF VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE HAD TO SUM UP HIS MAIN ACHIEVEMENT IN THE VISITS PAID TO ISRAEL AND

EGYPT THIS WEEK, HE WOULD NO DOUBT SAY 'RENEWING THE POLITICAL MOMENTUM.'"

8. HOWEVER, YEDIOT AHARONOT'S RIGHT-WING EDITOR COLDLY ESTIMATES THAT "MONDALE CAME HERE IN FULL HARMONY WITH HIS PRESIDENT IN ORDER TO TELL US THAT WHAT CARTER IS SAYING IS WASHINGTON'S POLITICAL LINE. IN FACT, MONDALE EVEN OUTDID CARTER ON SOME POINTS, MAKING THEM EVEN LESS ACCEPTABLE TO US..."

9. SUMMING UP THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT, MAARIV COMMENTATOR SEGEV WRITES THAT "POLITICAL CIRCLES IN JERUSALEM YESTERDAY HAD MIXED EVALUATIONS TO OFFER ON THE OUTCOME OF THE VICE PRESIDENT'S MISSION TO ISRAEL. THEY STRESSED THAT THE CEREMONIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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PART OF THE VISIT HAD DEMONSTRATED THE NATURE OF THE GOODWILL WHICH WAS AN INHERENT PART OF MONDALE'S ACTUAL MISSION TO ISRAEL, BUT AS FOR THE VISIT'S POLITICAL SIDE, NOT ONLY HAS THERE BEEN NO RENEWED RAPPROCHEMENT IN U.S.- ISRAEL RELATIONS - THE SUBJECTS ALREADY IN DISPUTE HAVE NOW BEEN GIVEN RENEWED EMPHASIS.
LEWIS

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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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TAGS: OVIP, PEPR, IS, US, (MONDALE, WALTER F)
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